ABSTRACT

Methods for detecting a cell damage relate to the discovery that proteases are selectively activated in subjects suffering from nervous system damage compared to samples from healthy subjects. Breakdown products reflecting activation of proteases that degrade spectrin are produced. A cell injury is detected by providing a biological sample derived from the subject; detecting in the sample the presence of these breakdown products generated by multiple proteases, and correlating the presence of these breakdown products with the presence or type of cell damage.

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